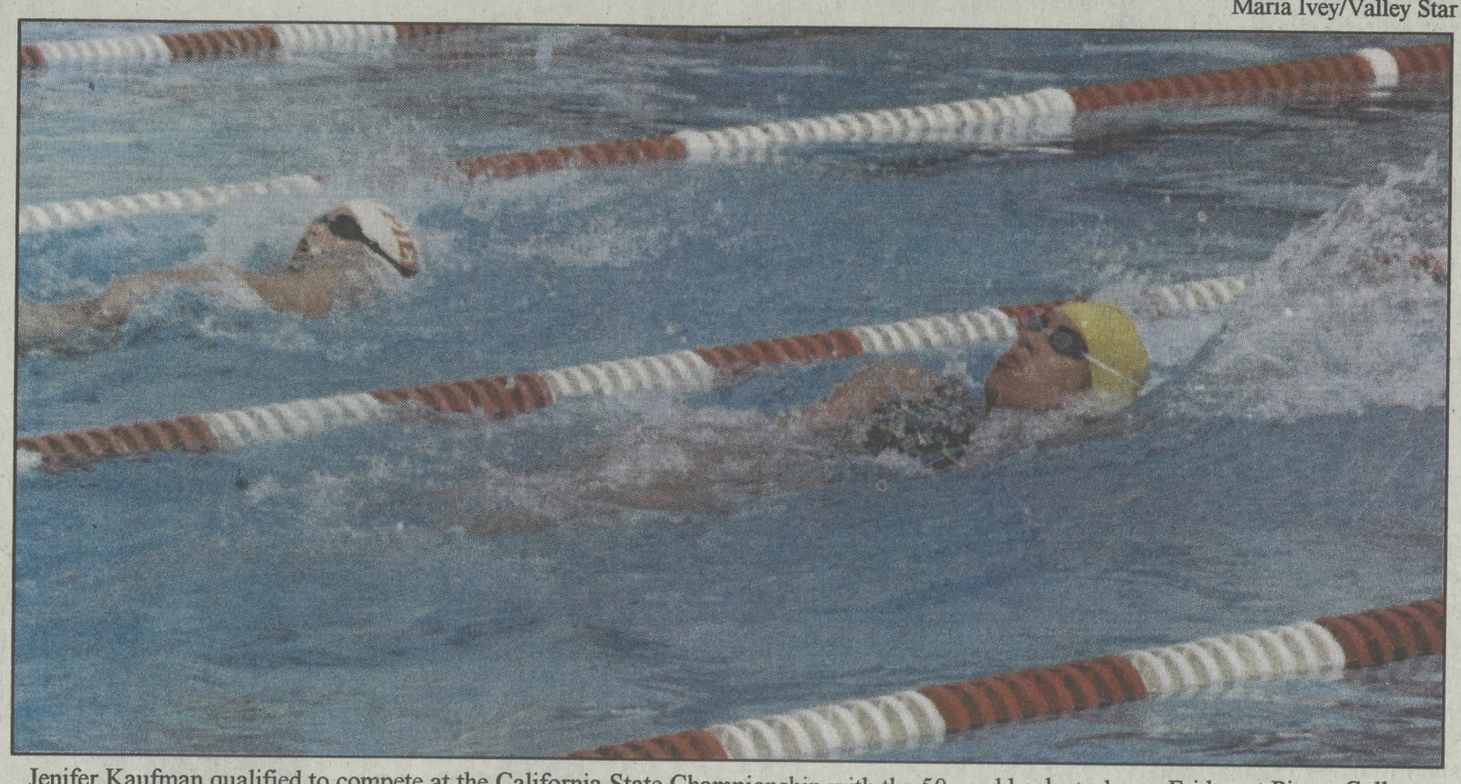
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Valley Star

1996

Volume 48, Issue No. 7 | Los Angeles Valley College | Van Nuys, California | April 25, ~~1995~~

Maria Ivey/Valley Star



Jenifer Kaufman qualified to compete at the California State Championship with the 50 yard back stroke on Friday at Pierce College.

College Cuisine

by Mike Onofrey
Valley Star Staff Writer

No waiters, waitresses or maitre d'. No cloth napkins, candles or tablecloths. No filet mignon, cracked crab or caviar. But it's functional, necessary and serves the needs of the students—it's Valley College's school cafeteria.

From 7 a.m. to 8:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and closing time at 2:30 p.m. Friday, the cafeteria offers a standard, no-nonsense menu in a dining hall that is easy to keep clean, because of its plastic chairs and tables.

At 8 p.m. one Monday, there were only two people seated in the cafeteria, but there were a half dozen people at the cash register, mostly getting coffee.

Joe Alberron always eats in the cafeteria because he studies a lot and the cafeteria is convenient. That Monday night was no exception.

Alberron, taking a break from his studies, sat with a plastic tray before him and a pita sandwich in his hand. Alberron said, while trying to wrap his mouth around a corner of the pita which was as fat as a large grapefruit, that the portions of food could be larger, prices cheaper and the taste of food better.

Actually, the only thing Alberron didn't complain about, while sauce dripped through his fingers, was the staff. The workers in the cafeteria were always friendly, according to Alberron.

Three tables away from Alberron, the only other diner sat with a full Salisbury steak dinner before her. Shayna Douglas eats at the cafeteria on an average of once a week. Unlike Alberron, Douglas said the prices, food and portions were all good. About the staff, she agreed fully with Alberron, friendly workers who did their job. After some thought, the only suggestions Douglas could make were: first, a microwave for public use in the hall, and second, more condiments. Douglas was genuinely pleased with her ability to walk in and get a hot meal without having to leave campus.

So even though it's not tuxedo dining, the Valley College cafeteria takes care of its own in an efficient, convenient manner without a whole lot of hoopla.

Focus on Basic Skills: Second Summer Session Offered

Instructional Programs Committee plans summer schedules to utilize state funding

by John Tarr
Valley Star Staff Writer

The Instructional Programs Committee met Friday, April 19, to discuss the allocation of summer session resources. The committee finalized requests for additional funding by individual departments. They approved the proposed allocation for the first summer session, pending expected sub-committee reports. The second summer session was discussed briefly. It was decided to finalize decisions at a later meeting.

Not many people know that a second summer session is being offered by Valley College. When asked to comment on the offering of a second summer session, one Valley College instructor replied, "We're having a second summer session?"

The Los Angeles Community College District asked to have the regularly scheduled summer session start earlier this year, about June 17. The early start was decided upon to capture basic skills money, according to Dr. Shannon Stack, chair of the Instructional Programs Committee.

The additional summer session is geared toward offering those basic skills classes unprepared students will need. Dr. Elizabeth Friedman of the chemistry department said, "I have never seen a more poorly prepared group of students in my 12 years of teaching. It is deplorable."

Friedman said that students have been bringing in falsified prerequisite papers. The students go on to fail the course, drop it, or take it again, because they did not have the basic skills required to successfully complete that course.

Stack said, "The second session is good for entering students who could work on improving basic skills. It will help them get ready to take transfer courses. The instructional program is trying to look at basic skills needs and at the same time, trying to be fiscally sound."

The basic skills that will be focused on during the second summer session are reading, writing, and arithmetic. There will also be emphasis on the ESL lab, the writing center, and office administration skills.

According to Friedman, the enrollment one year decides how much money the school will receive next year. The decision as to which courses will be offered this summer is dependent upon the enrollment of last summer.

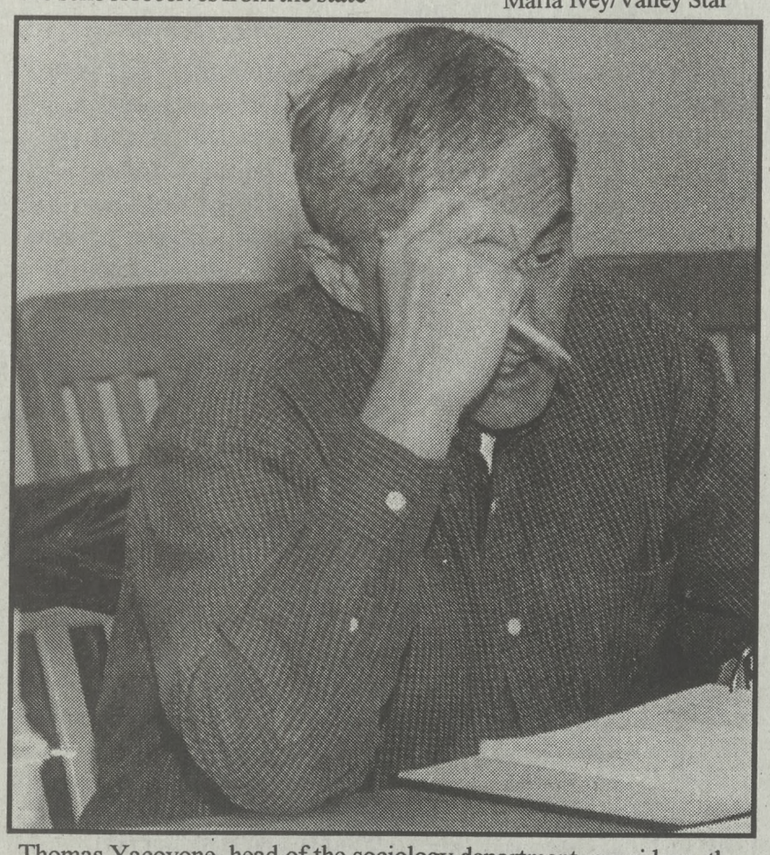
Whether or not that class will survive depends upon the number of students still enrolled through the second week. The decision as to how much money each department receives is based upon how many students were still enrolled after the fourth week.

The number of students in the classroom is the determining factor as far as how much money the school receives from the state is concerned. Having two summer sessions will enable Valley College to reach the maximum WSCH funding.

WSCH (weekly student contact hours) funding is the amount of money the state gives to Valley College for each student in attendance.

Although the first session focuses on allowing students to fulfill general education requirements, the second session will offer a few select general courses. The listing of which courses will or will not be offered was unavailable at press time.

Maria Ivey/Valley Star



Thomas Yacovone, head of the sociology department, consideres the scheduling of classes for the first summer session.

Journalists Meet in Fresno

by Monica Lid
Valley Star Staff Writer

From April 12 through 14 about 550 journalism students gathered in Fresno for the 40th annual JACC [Journalism Association of Community Colleges] conference. In the course of two days of competitions, speeches and seminars, the students were introduced to a variety of subjects within photography and journalism, good and bad.

The event that probably touched peoples hearts the most, was the highlight speaker, Terry Anderson, a former Associated Press reporter who was held captive by Hezbollah for seven years in Lebanon.

Accordingly and not unexpectedly, Anderson spent much of this time there soul searching. The result from this, his thoughts and feelings on journalism, were conveyed to students and their advisors during a beautifully performed speech which included a poem he wrote while being held by Lebanese extremists.

Anderson's scheduled press conference was followed by a book signing event where students had a chance to obtain a copy of his book "Den of Lions: Memoirs of Seven Years" and exchange a few words with the author.

By entering fields such as photography and/or journalism one will eventually encounter many stressful situations. It was therefore a great experience for many to have such a tight schedule and to compete under timed conditions with students from other colleges. The main complaint being voiced was regarding the fact that several of the seminars were held at the same time, this way many students did not get to attend as many as they had wished for. Then again, one can only cram so much into two days.

In addition to photo rap sessions and seminars on topics such as: media law, war correspondence, grammar and others, this weekend also included a lot of new faces. People whom one could exchange stories of triumphs and error, and maybe even regard as future contacts.

Adding to the excitement of the event, Valley College brought home four 3rd place awards and an honorable mention from the mail-in competitions. Other locals who won recognition were LA Trade Tech and Pierce Colleges. Congratulations!

Campus Clips:

TAE. Tau Alpha Epsilon, Valley College's Scholastic Honors Society, will have a rummage sale/bake sale/car wash Saturday, April 27 from 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. The event will be in Valley College's parking lot at the corner of Fulton and Oxnard.

DIAL DIRECT TO VALLEY. A new feature in Valley's phone systems allows callers to dial direct on campus. Instead of dialing 781-1200 and entering a three-number extension, callers can choose to dial 778-0 and that same extension. Anyone can call the Valley Star at 778-0275 or 781-1200 ext. 275.

BSU. The Black Student Union at Valley College presents Apollo Night, a talent competition, Friday, April 26 at 7 p.m. The grand prize is $200 winner take all and will be held at Monarch Hall. Tickets are $7 which includes admission and an after-event party. For auditions or information, call (818) 3329-2798 or (818) 329-0263.

HIV TESTS. HIV testing will be available on campus from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 24 & 25 in the Student Health Clinic. To make an appointment or for more information, call the Clinic at (818) 780-0652 or stop by the Clinic located in the Women's Gym Building.

APPLICATION FOR STUDENT LEADER AWARD. Applications for the President's Outstanding Leader Award are available in CC-100. One student will be recognized at the annual awards banquet to be held May 14th. Registered day students must be enrolled in 9 units; evening students must be enrolled in 6 units and all applicants must have an overall GPA of 2.5. The student must show outstanding leadership and service to Valley College.

SENIOR DAYS. Valley College hosted about 600 high school seniors during its annual Senior Days, held Tuesday and Wednesday, April 23 & 24. Among the high schools involved were: Burroughs, Burbank, Grant, Polytechnic, North Hollywood, Monroe and Van Nuys.

STUDENT AID TEST. Students interested in financial aid should attend the ability to benefit test Wednesday, May 1 at 6 p.m. It will be held in Administration Building room 126. Bring a picture ID; no appointment is necessary.

CAMPUS CONCERT. Valley College Music department will present another of the Campus Concert Series for Spring 1996. On Thursday May 2, the West Coast Saxophone Quartet will perform at 11 a.m. in the Music Recital Hall. This event is just one portion of the LAVC Arts Festival.

POETRY CONTEST. The EPS Publishing Company invites students to participate in their upcoming 1996 fall book project, "Words from the Heart." General poetry is being accepted and poets are invited to send one or two original poems, 24 lines or less, on any subject. Poems must be postmarked no later than June 1. Mail poetry to: EPS Publishing Company, 17400 South Blvd., Gulfport, MS 39503.

Social Security Insecurity

by Adam Adler
Valley Star Staff Writer

It will let you open a bank account or get a credit card. It gives you access to personal information like your taxes and credit report. It is also the way the government tracks and identifies you.

Your Social Security number, for all means and purposes, *is* you and can be used to represent you in almost every way. It is even used as your Student ID number at Valley College, for all the world to see.

With the two numbers being the same, your Social Security number goes everywhere from your fee receipt to the sign out sheet in the library. How many people see all these different pieces of school paperwork every day? Anyone could take your number and start using it illegally.

There is an option of getting a correspondence number to serve as your Student ID, but this option is not made very clear. Associate Dean of Student Services, John Barnheart, explained one of the reasons for using the Social Security number is to make transfers to universities easier; that is what they use to identify students.

He also explained that a correspondence number would cause confusion in Financial Aid because they have to use Social Security numbers so the federal government can track student loans. However, Dean Barnheart did agree that having the Social Security number used around campus could cause problems.

The Community College District is even concerned with the issue. One particular case that caused them concern was when a professor posted grades under students' Social Security numbers. One person took some numbers and used them illegally. The District now advises that only the last four digits of the number be used.

If you are concerned about the safety of your number, you should ask Admissions for a correspondence number. You do have the right to keep your business private.

Valley College Tries a Second Summer Session

Answered Prayer or Bearing Trouble?

Editorial

Students Will Have the Opportunity to Attend Multiple Summer Sessions at Valley College

Valley College will offer two summer sessions this year. What a great idea, some of you might be thinking. With that in mind, it would seem as if students would have more flexibility in their summer school schedule. And possibly the opportunity to earn almost as many units during the summer as they would in a regular semester.

The second session will offer mainly classes in basic skills such as ESL, typing and remedial reading.

For the many students who take advantage of summer classes to complete required general education classes this would be to their advantage.

But wait, there is a catch. The first session will offer typical classes usually offered by Valley College during the summer session, such as accounting and biology.

The second session will offer mainly classes in basic skills such as ESL, typing and remedial reading. The reason for this, according to the Instructional Planning Committee, is to offer basic skills classes to students who need help in specific areas like reading and writing. They also want to help high school students prepare for college level work expectations.

Because of this addition to the schedule, classes for the first session will begin one week earlier than usual to accommodate the second session of summer classes. The first session will start on June 17 and will be a six week session overlapping the second session starting on July 1 for only five weeks.

The main beneficiary of this plan will be high school students intending to enroll in the fall se mester, or later, who need to build their skills to college level.

But who are we fooling? A lot of students coming out of high school with their diploma are not going to think they need extra classes to prepare them for a community college. Whether it is a fact or not, few of them will be critical enough of their own skills to enroll in basic skills classes unless they are required to do so.

Certainly some of the classes like ESL or typing might do well in the second session, but what about the students who do not need basic skills classes and would like to share in the benefit of having two sessions to choose from? Ideally, both of the summer sessions should offer standard classes as well as basic skills classes.

What about regular Valley College students? Students who were asked about the two sessions thought it was a great idea, initially. When they were advised that the second session was mainly geared toward basic skills classes, they were disappointed.

Who will benefit the most by having two summer sessions? High school students, some current Valley College students, but mainly the school.

Sad but true, the bottom line once again comes down to money.

By having the second summer session offer basic skills classes the college will get funding designed specifically for basic skills courses.

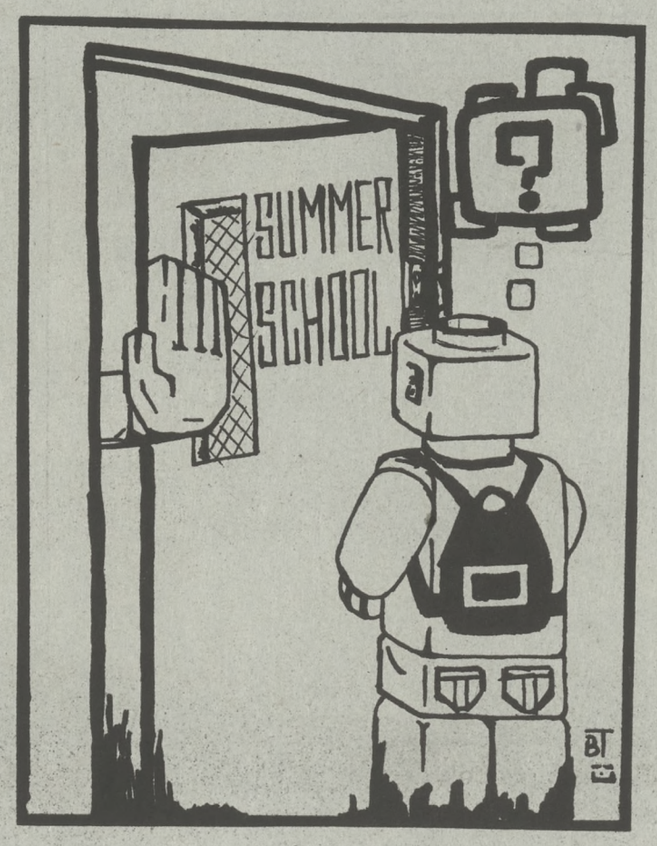
While the college gains in the budgetary world, and high school students gain the opportunity to strengthen their basic skills (if they take it), in the real world, we as Valley College students trying to advance in class units by giving up our summer, benefit little if any.

Sad but true, the bottom line once again comes down to money.

We checked with some of the San Diego Community Colleges and at S.D. Mesa College, Palomar Community College and S.D. City College, they are all, as usual, running just one summer session. The opinion at San Diego City College was that to run a second summer session offering just basic skills classes would be detrimental to the students attending those classes.

Historically, students who need basic skills instruction require more time in class than usual to master the material, therefore, a shorter session could make it difficult for them.

All of the colleges we talked to, including Valley College, may have run two summer sessions in the past but it was too long ago for them to remember the outcome. I guess we'll see first hand if this is a good idea or not.



Interning: A Good First Step

by Mia Muro
Valley Star Staff Writer

Many college students devote much of their time to benign activities like watching TV, talking on the phone or just hanging out. It's normal. Nothing to do, not much to worry about and certainly you're not rushing off to "the office" any time soon. You're in college, time to party.

So what are you going to do with that degree anyway?

This is "the question" most of us avoid until we have ordered our cap and gown. With graduation around the corner people start asking where you're going to work and that's when panic sets in, a flurry of sloppy resumes goes out, and suddenly you realize you have no idea what you want to do or even what the name of that dream job is.

Well, there's always waiting on cranky customers at a restaurant.

OR, you can devote the time you normally spend "hanging out" to an internship. With an intership you become accustomed to going to an "office" and you can find out what people in the profession you've chosen actually do. Many jobs seem glamorous until you actually spend a few weeks doing the real nitty gritty work. An internship gives you a first hand glimpse into the reality of the day to day humdrum that accompanies most jobs.

You also get a realistic idea of how much money you'll make, how much free time you'll have and basically you will get all your questions answered by people who are probably more knowledgeable than a counselor would be.

When you are interviewing for an internship make sure you will be learning about the job or jobs you're interested in, not just stuffing envelopes. Find out how involved your co-workers will be in helping you learn.

If you investigate your career choice through an internship and find you hate it, you can change your major and do another internship. If this seems a little too laborious, try spending most of your life at a job you hate.

Check into available internships by asking teachers, counselors, fellow students or contacting companies directly and avoid that



For the Record:

In the April 18 issue, the film review of Mrs. Winterbourne had an error, stating Connie died. The story should have said,
Hugh and Patricia die when that train crashes and Connie--wearing Patricia's gown and wedding ring--survives the wreck to wake up in a hospital.

Campus Forum

April 23, 1996

To: The Valley Star

I'm wondering what happened to the job board listings. I used to read it every week before my evening class in the Campus Center and even during the break.

Being an out of work college student, I found the board helpful in my search for appropriate and fruitful employment and also for internships.

But where did it go? Just like that— one day it was gone. No notice, no warning or anything!

Why did they move the job board and would somebody tell us where it is now?

Thanks for letting me vent.

K. Timmins
Valley College Student

★

April 19, 1996

To: The Valley Star

Congratualtions!

The Valley Star improves issue after issue. Joan Stuller, the newspaper adviser, and Adam Adler (you especially) deserve a lot of credit.More power to both of you.

Austin Conover, Museum

★



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✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS ✪ LETTERS

The Valley Star will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist, or sexually oriented denigrations. Letter must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be dropped at the Valley Star Bungalow 25, by Monday morning for the following Thursday.



Los Angeles College students enjoy breakfast beginning at 7:00 a.m. in the cafeteria located north of Monarch Hall.

VALLEY 'S CUISINE



Arceli Estrada and Marina Sangkavichai, Valley College students, are regular customers of the Arcade Snack Bar.



Helen Pocasangre, Valley College student, enjoyed a quick snack while studying in the shade.

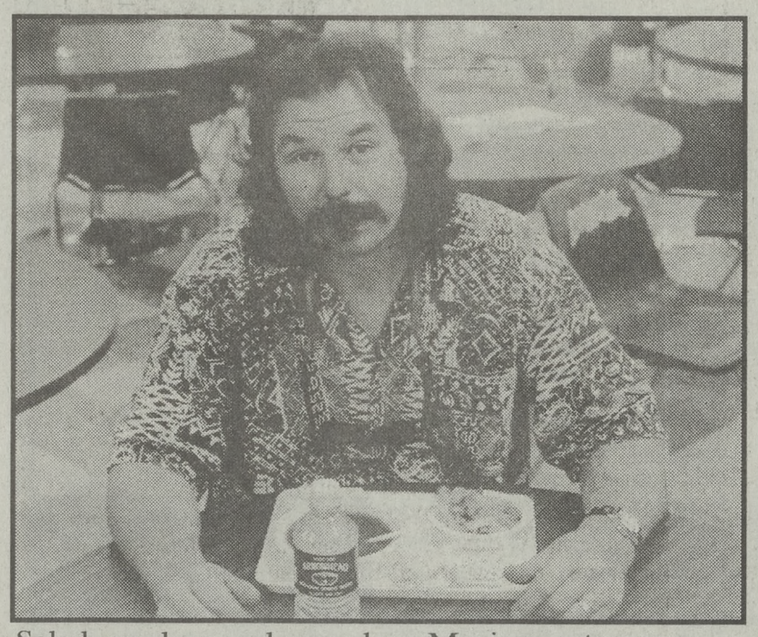
The Quad, Court, Arcade Snackbar and Cafeteria can satisfy any appetite, from a theater arts major to a baseball superstar.

So, if you feel the craving for munchies when you're running between classes, check out the variety of hot and cold foods offered at any of the campus snack bars.

Text by John Tarr



Valley College students purchase snacks between classes from the Quad Snack Bar.



Salad, crackers and menudo, a Mexican entree are purchased for lunch by Jerry Lebeck at the Cafeteria.

Photos by Paul Norland

Jazz and Hip Hop a Match Made in Heaven

by Harry Arakelian
Valley Star Staff Writer

Hip-hop has probably been the most criticized (nearly crucified) art forms of all time. Some have tried to discredit and dishonor this music from its cultural and artistic importance.

The following interviews were held with two scholars of Hip-Hopistry, radio DJ Mike Nardone and music appreciandado Jackson Allers. Both answered the question: What is the relationship between hip-hop and jazz?

Since 1989, Mike Nardone has brought underground hip-hop to the airwaves of Los Angeles radio. His unique appreciation of music has been of considerable value to the hip-hop community. For seven years, he has aired his show, "We Came From Beyond," which curently runs Sunday nights from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. on 88.9 KXLU. His work extols his love of music, since he does his show without any salary.

Valley Star: I remember you as far back as 1991 and 1992. When did you start working on radio?

Mike Nardone: My start was actually 1983, in high school up in Monterey. I was on a 1,000 watt station. Then I moved down here to go to school. Then, I got the show on KXLU in 1988 and I've been here ever since.

V.S.: What about jazz? Did you have any jazz influences throughout that time?

M.N.: Actually, jazz...I got more into jazz when I came down here in the early 1990s.

V.S.: Did that have anything to do with the West Coast hip-hop vibe just being more jazzy than anywhere else?

M.N.: It wasn't that at all, actually. It was from the interest in the music. I've always loved live music. Live music is just the best. Especially when it's done as well as jazz usually is. At one point, I was followed (on his radio show time slot) by "Jazz Night Flight." I wouldn't say West Coast groups influence me. I'd say probably more individual people rather than groups.

V.S.: Do you see any jazz musicians who are really trying to put an effort to help hip-hop move forward as a culture?

M.N.: Yeah, but I think all the people who worked on the Jazzmatazz albums (a two-volume fusion orchestrated by Guru of Gangstarr)! I mean any artist who's cleared any samples is helping out. I think for hip-hop to move forward as a culture, we've got to squash all the petty stuff. That's the first thing. First things first.

V.S.: What about the commercial by KRS-ONE, who did the remake of the Gil-Scott Heron classic "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised", for Nike?

M.N.: I LOVED IT, that was hot. I mean take KRS to the masses. I don't care. I mean, he's been making records for 10 years. He's got the best live show of anybody by-far. I mean, what can you say about him, he *is* the Blastmaster.

V.S.: That brings up my next question. Jazz had such greats as Miles, Duke, Coltrane, and others. Do you think there are hip-hop artists such as KRS, that are strong enough to be remembered say in 2040?

M.N.: I mean, well, jazz is a relatively new art form as well. I would say 20 years from now you could pick up as KRS-ONE album and it would still...lyrically that shit is going to hold out. Public Enemy's first album and De La Soul's first album are both 10 years old and they've stood the touch of time. I don't know how they would be looked at. I mean, Coltrane in his time was looked at cross-eyed like "What are you doing". They as generations passed or as time passed people began to appreciate it. Now, they look at it in retrospect and say "Oh that is hot." They were trying to expand their culture. Coltrane was trying to expand what people didn't see at that time.

V.S.: Do you feel that's the fate of, say, a Freestyle Fellowship or members of the group like Micah Nine or Aceyalone, to where their appreciation comes years down the line?

M.N.: I don't know. How can we say hip-hop is going to live another 10 years or be as prosperous as jazz has been over the last 40 years. I think (it is) for the die-hard kid that is born today and he or she gets into hip-hop...and they grow with the times and learn about not only the contemporary artist of their time, when they're like 15 or 16 years old and are like, "Oh, I'm into this kid or that kid, but what about before this?" It's there for them to go back to and look. But whether they would or not, who knows. But it's there for them. I don't know if people would go and look for it. I should truly hope so.

V.S.: How do you feel jazz is influencing hip-hop now? Not criticizing them but the groups A Tribe Called Quest and Ganstar, they were labeled as "jazz/hip-hop" for throwing a few jazz samples in their music. Then you have a musician like Micah Nine, who implements live music in everything he's done. Do you see that happening to where it won't be known as "jazz influenced hip-hop," but simply "live hip-hop?"

M.N.: I think there will be groups like the Fugee's, who will be successful using a blend of a DJ and a live band. I don't think it will ever get away from, I can't envision it getting away from, drum machine oriented with samples.

V.S.: Well, even a drum machine can be a substitute for an actual drum set.

M.N.: Right. I don't see it getting away from that. I don't know that there's that many kids who are interested in playing an instrument and I don't know if the funding is there for the schools. When I was in school you had to take music class. It has helped me throughout life.

Jackson Garabed Allers is a composer of music in his own mind. He can be found consistently listening to either jazz or hip-hop. At 24, he is a Duke graduate with an English literature degree, lives in Texas and has carried music with him throughout his life.

V.S.: Do you play any jazz or hip-hop musical instruments?

Jackson Allers: I play some jazz violin occasionally.

V.S.: How long have you been playing?

J.A.: I've been playing since the fourth grade. I haven't been active the past few years but I'm starting to get back into that.

V.S.: I know you appreciate both forms of music, but what do they mean to you?

J.A.: Well, I think both jazz and hip-hop are both uniquely American art forms. And hip-hop can be compared to jazz in so many ways. And it all comes from the same African-American experience. Music was a form of expression,and the musicans took advantage of that , Blues started to turn into a different form of music and that became jazz in places like Chicago, New Orleans, New York, and even L.A. It just started going crazy. From there it evolved into separate forms of rebellious music being jazz, and jazz evolving hip-hop.

What does that mean to me? It means that I can appreciate something that is uniquely American. It means that it's always contemporary because of its endless material. Now jazz has gone crazy, man. So has hip-hop.

V.S.: Would you say hip-hop is an installment of jazz, seeing that jazz went from Be-bop to Do-wop to what is now hip-hop? Would you categorize hip-hop as a form of jazz?

J.A.: I'd say it can be a form of jazz. I think they are two separate genres of music that can be combined.

V.S.: What do you think can help both these cultures move forward in the 90s?

J.A.: To look towards each other for inspiration.

V.S.: How strong do you think jazz is in regards to hip-hop?

J.A.: It's integrated now. But I don't think it was in the beginning.

V.S.: Take for example Freestyle Fellowship or the Fugees, both of these groups are in their own leagues now because of their use of live instruments. Hip-hop, which uses live instruments, is usually labeled as jazzy hip-hop. Do you believe it will ever become recognized as live hip-hop rather than jazzy hip-hop?

J.A.: Well, I think it's already moving toward that. Take KRS-ONE for example. He's got the greatest live show, though he doesn't sound like the two other groups.

V.S.: That brings us to the question of KRS and the commercial for Nike, and the remake of the Gil-Scott heron classic. How do you feel about the commercial?

Continued on Page 5

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Sneak Preview:
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Be the first in your crowd to see the most highly anticipated movies of the season. Meet the directors, writers, and stars of the films in intimate, informal discussions after the screenings.
Movies are shown before or at the time of their theatrical release.
Here is a sampling of past screenings and their guest speakers:
Primal Fear with director GREGORY HOBLIT
Mighty Aphrodite with Academy Award-winning actress MIRA SORVINO
The Usual Suspects with director BRYAN SINGER
Sabrina with producer/director SYDNEY POLLACK
Panther with director MARIO VAN PEEBLES
Braveheart with Academy Award-winning director, and producer/actor MEL GIBSON
Legends of the Fall with director EDWARD ZWICK
Speed with writer GRAHAM YOST
No one is admitted after the screenings begin.
The course is coordinated and moderated by STEPHEN FARBER, film critic and journalist; author of several books on film, most recently *Hollywood on the Couch*.
Wednesday, 7-10 pm,
May 15-June 19
Brentwood: Veterans Wadsworth Theater, Eisenhower Blvd.
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(Forms available at Administration Information Counter)

Improvisation Makes KVCM Popular



by Leo Mayorga
Valley Star Staff Writer

KVCM, Valley College's radio station, could be said to be one of the few stations that offers two formats.

Regular radio stations only provide one type of format directed towards a certain segment of the population. KVCM offers rock, ranging from alternative, punk, to hard rock, from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. It also has hip hop in the afternoons from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

KVCM offers rock, alternative, punk, hard rock and hip hop.

Another advantage of the station is that it is heard over the cable radio on TCI Cable.

"Our services are provided over the East Valley cable radio on TCI Cable channel 15. It allows us to be less restricted by FCC regulations. Students can come and have their own shows," said Daniel "Dynamo" Brady, KVCM station manager.

"We've always been trying to get on TCI Cable radio. A year and a half ago we finally got hooked up with United Artist Cable, now known as TCI, and now we can be heard as far as Pacoima.

"If you have TCI cable, anywhere in the valley, you just turn on channel 15 and we'll be on between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m." said Ken "The Troll" Edelberg, KVCM production manager.

Programming also differentiates KVCM from other radio stations. KVCM is not 100 percent programmed. At other radio stations DJs are told what to play and at what time. DJs are scheduled to talk at certain times. KVCM DJs have a little more freedom. Some improvisation is used in their shows.

"Here we try to play five songs an hour and you get to choose whatever you want to do or play. You could decide to just talk for your hour show," said Edelberg.

KVCM has many shows that appeal to all types of audiences at Valley College. The Barrio Show, a live mix show on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m., has the largest audience of any current show at the radio station. The show, which plays mainly deep house in the two hour span, gets about 200 calls on average per show.

"The Barrio Show, in the underground community of the San Fernando Valley, is well known. It has set our station to a new standard," said Brady.

The success of the Barrio Show is due to the dedication and effort of the DJs. They went out of their way to advertise their show. The staff of the Barrio Show have gone to many radio stations, including Power 106 and the Beat, to post stickers.

Flava Camp, another afternoon show on Thursdays, is a hip- hop show. The DJs have brought in a variety of hip-hop artists from the past and present. The show brings in an average of 80 calls within its two-hour time slot.

"Another great thing, with us being on cable, is that we've done a service for the college. We've built more interest for broadcasting. I'll have callers once in a while asking me how they can join the broadcasting department. I think that's good for the college because it brings in more students "said Brady.

'Hip Hop'

Continued from Page 4

J.A.: Do I feel he sold out? No. I thought it was great. I think whatever he has to do to have his voice heard, he should do it. He should let no man get in his way.

V.S.: Do you see a difference between East Coast and West Coast hip-hop, to where the West is more in sync with jazz and the East still relies heavily on samples?

J.A.: They are not composers in the East, when you have Micah Nine out here, who is a true musical composer. But you have to give Tribe their deserved respect for bringing the element of jazz into hip-hop.

V.S.: Do you think hip-hop has musicians of the caliber of jazz greats like Miles and Coltrane?

J.A.: Well, hip-hop has, as we know it, only been around about 20 years.

V.S.: Do you see a youth, 20 to 40 years from now, picking up a copy of BDP's Edutainment and enjoying it as whole-heartedly as we do today?

J.A.: Yeah, that can happen. I think that in jazz you have true visionaries, and hip-hop is starting to come around with KRS-ONE and Aceyalone.

V.S.: Do you think the first albumn of Freestyle Fellowship will be remembered after its time?

J.A.: Groups like F.F. will definitely be looked at in that way. They're all ahead of their time.

Gere's Fear not so Primal

Sierra On Film

By Sierra Roberts
Valley Star Staff Writer

If you're looking for a good "who done it?" "Primal Fear" will probably satisfy you. It's not the best courtroom drama you will ever see, but it does keep you guessing and trying to figure things out.

With such films being so popular in recent years, audiences may find themselves being their own investigators trying to determine who the real killer is before the film actually tells them.

The basic plot is, a prominent Chicago Archbishop had been brutally murdered and mutilated. A 19 year old Kentucky boy is seen running from the scene soaked in blood. He is arrested and charged with first degree murder. He claims to be innocent and that there was a third person at the scene.

Richard Gere plays a high profile defense attorney known for getting criminals off no matter what the means. He volunteers to take the boy's case pro bono, why, we are never really sure.

Besides trying to find the real killer is another story line between Gere's ex-boss, the district attorney whose involvement in city politics has him somehow connected to illegal activity with the late Archbishop. Then there's the obvious sexual tension between Gere and the prosecuting attorney who he was formerly involved with.

Much of the action takes place in the boy's jail cell as he is psychoanalized. The film also follows the defense teams investigation as Gere tries to unravel the mystery of the butchered Bishop.

So there's a twist to the end of the story, but you somehow know there will be all along. There are several questions that never get answered. All in all it's $7.00 and two and a half hours fairly well spent on entertainment, if you can get a student discount it's worth seeing.

Remembering the Day of Destruction

by Allen Cochrane
Valley Star Staff Writer

In the history of mankind, no act of persecution by a people has had the scope of intentions or determination for success, as the German attempt at genocide of the Jews during World War II.

It is this single-minded effort to annihilate a people, and their will to persevere against the dictates of a madman, which was the focus of the Holocaust Remembrance Seminar at Los Angeles Valley College on Wednesday, April 17.

"Yom HaShoa: The Day of Devastation," Dr. Zev Garber, professor and director of Jewish studies at Valley College. called it. "The story of Holocaust or Shoah." A time when 19 supposedly civilized men acted upon the request of their fuhrer to supply the world with a 'Final Solution' that took the lives of over 6 million Jews before the war's end. "I choose not to call these murderers monsters," said Garber. "They were very sane people who chose to do what they did."

Speaking before a gathering in Monarch Hall Tuesday morning, Garber was one of a number of speakers who presented the audience with an eloquent oratory, that expressed the passion of their convictions. "You must not rationalize, trivialize, or compromise on your view of the Shoah," said Garber. "Human beings, as Jews, were exterminated. The dead or maimed were not dealt with, they were processed."

It is this very inhumanity that has prolonged the pain of the Jewish people and the grief they hold for the millions of innocent who were slaughtered. "They were not martyrs," said Garber. "The word martyr means you choose your death. Those 6 million holy ones of Israel did not choose to die. Call them individual heroes who were murdered in the most horrible of circumstance."

"It is very true, in World War II, there were more Christian-Gentile citizens killed," said Simcha 'Si' Frumkin, Holocaust survivor. "But they did not kill them because they were Armenian, or because they were Polish. The only group of people in Europe 'sentenced to death,' were the Jews."

Frumkin attempted to explain why the Jewish people will not forget the atrocities of the war with an answer to the sentiments expressed by many of those not of the Jewish faith. "Why just the Jews? Didn't anyone else suffer? Enough already. It's become tiresome." His simple response: "Not every victim was a Jew. Every Jew was a victim."

Frumkin created an image of how the world would have been if Hitler had succeeded in his aim of world domination. "There would be no Jews anywhere. Blacks were considered subhuman by the Germans, and after Hitler's victory there would have been no blacks in America. Africa would have been an empty continent," said Frumkin. "If you had Indian blood, you're not considered human either, so you wouldn't be left."

The recollections of Holocaust survivor, Sol Berger, like those of Frumkin, brought into focus the strength of character needed to draw on each painful memory. Each memory has been told by them before and will be again, but with the telling, they represent 50 years of grief and pain each and every time.

"The tenth of August, 1942, is a day that will live in my mind forever," said Berger. "On that day, all Jews in our community were told to bring 25 pounds of belongings to the market square and to leave the doors of their homes open. There we were to register at the central market on a Monday morning. Within an hour, the SS surrounded the market place and no one could escape.

Then the German police selected most of the older people, about 500, and took them away, including my father. Only the trucks that took them came back. We found out later, all those people were shot and thrown into a mass grave."

The actions of the Germans resulted in Berger and the other Jews living in a fenced and gated 'ghetto,' "To be our place of living till we don't know when," said Berger. Subsequently, Berger and three brothers were ordered to work in an SS camp as tailors. At the camp, one brother did not survive, and one was taken to Auschwitz, a concentration camp. Berger escaped and headed east, where he helped to form a resistance group to sabotage German efforts until 1944. In 1945, when he could safely return to his home, Berger returned in the hope of finding friends and family. From what had been a population of 3,000 Jews in the town, he found 25. "I traveled from town to town looking for survivors," said Berger. "Unfortunately I did not find anyone who survived from my family."

Randy Steinberg, an attorney and Assistant Director of the Anti-Defamation League, spoke to those gathered from the perspective of a younger generation, but with views tempered by practicality. "I don't think getting rid of all hatred and bigotry in 10 years or in my lifetime is a realistic goal," said Steinberg. "But I can at least help to prevent some of it."

Steinberg expressed optimism about the future of the Jewish culture. "The overall outlook is pretty positive," said Steinberg. "We're well integrated into most communities. The ADL doesn't see swastikas or anti-Semitism around every corner. We know most people have basic goodness and honesty." However, he did say that although anti-Semitic incidents have dropped in number, the frequency of serious occurrences has increased. "In the 90's there is a general decline in civility" said Steinberg. "In the past you might have thought something but you would never have acted on it. But now, we find more people think and then they act."

Because the ADL has prevention and education programs, Steinberg is pleased with the pluses brought about by forums such as the Holocaust Seminar. "I think we are having a great impact now," said Steinberg. "A lot of kids didn't know how to react before, so I feel like we're doing something positive. I don't feel any frustration. What I do means more to me than if I were working on some legal contract."

The seminars introductory speaker, Valley College President, Tyree Wieder expressed a sentiment common to both those involved in the presentation and those in attendance. "A friend told me 'Life is like driving a car. You almost always look forward, but sometimes you use your little rear-view mirror to look back,'" said Wieder. "You can't build for the future unless you know what has happened in the past."

Aaron Lieberman, president of Valley College Hillel, pointed out the need for the spirit of independence and perseverance to continue. "We have seen a lot of swastikas," said Lieberman. "It's just a reminder racism is still here. We need to keep people aware extremists are still there, and they still have the same thoughts of destruction and death."

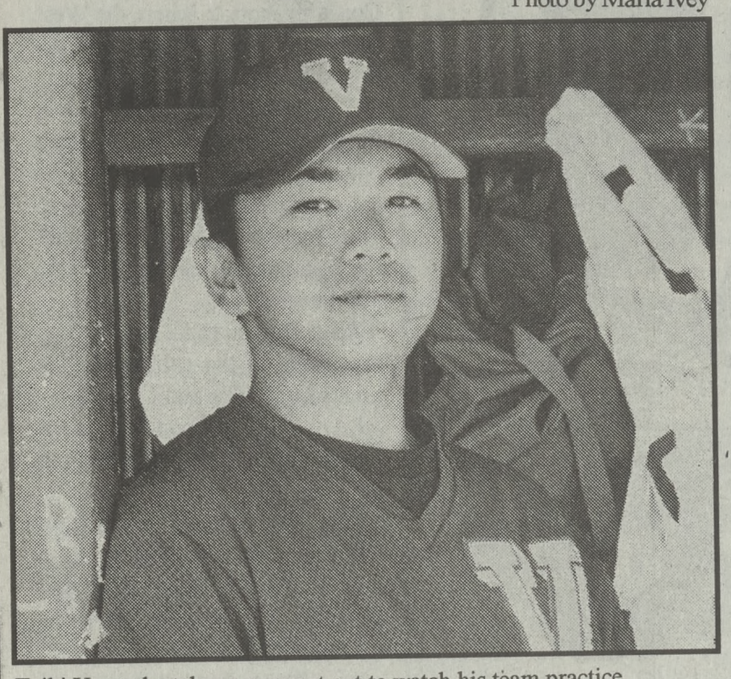
While acting as emcee for the morning session of the seminar, Lieberman was assisted by fellow student and Hillel member, Valeri Statland. She was credited by Lieberman with, "most of the organizing, 95% of the actual work." She reiterated the need for steadfast dedication. "You can't get a message to the world in one breath," said Statland. "God gave us the 10 commandments for everyone, and they are the source of great morals. But there is still immorality."

The morning session of the seminar, attended by approximately 200 students, faculty, and others, also featured a video, 'Debt to Honor' from the National Italian American Foundation. It gave testimony to the 45,000 Jewish lives lost in Italy during the Italian alliance with Germany which changed Italy's non racist government policies.

Following the morning session, a Judaica Museum was furnished to display ritualistic, traditional and historical Judaica and was staffed by Hillel members to answer questions. The evening session of the seminar featured Rabbi Manny Goldstein conducted a remembrance ritual and spoke on "Holocaust and Jewish Identity--The Jewish Soul--Pre- and Post-Holocaust." Holocaust Survivor Erika Jacoby's speech was called, "I Remember... Therefore I Speak."

Look Out Nomo, Valley's Got Taiki

Photo by Maria Ivey



Taiki Yamaoka takes a moment out to watch his team practice

By Sierra Roberts
Valley Star Staff Writer

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What could make someone leave all his family and friends to move thousands of miles away from home to a strange country, with a different language, different customs and a totally different culture? For Taiki Yamaoka it was the love of baseball. The 5' 9" Pitcher from Riseisha, Japan, has found a place to do what he loves best, play baseball.

Yamaoka came to Valley College with a dream, to one day play professional baseball. He was recruited last summer straight out of high school by Valley College head baseball coach Chris Johnson. According to Johnson, "He still struggles with the language, but he's doing pretty well."

Besides lots of talent and determination, Yamaoka brought with him a great deal of courage. With such a busy schedule, he has little time for fun or making new friends. He lives alone, attends general education classes at Valley College, works out, practices and plays the sport he loves. On weekends he does find company with his fellow team members at parties and social gatherings.

Johnson has put Yamaoka pitching against the toughest opponents the Monarchs have had to face and he has done very well. He has an overall record of five wins and six losses.

Last Saturday he pitched all nine innings against College of the Canyons. Despite a loss of 3-2, Yamaoka proved himself as a strong pitcher with great potential. This Saturday he takes the mound against Pierce.

Playing baseball for ten years, has given Yamaoka the opportunity to see a lot of different types of coaching. In Japan, he would practice four hours a day, seven days a week. Here he is pleased to practice three hours a day, five days a week. He recalls "In Japan we would have to obey our coaches, you couldn't say anything or they would either hit you or not let you play."

play. Playing at Valley College is much different. Yamaoka says, "Coach Johnson is a nice person, he looks really quiet, but he's real excited especially during the game. He's a funny man and the players respect him." Yamaoka also has a sense of humor, when asked if there was anything he wanted the people of Valley College to know about him, he said, "I don't have a girlfriend and I live alone."

In terms of future plans, Taiki Yamaoka plans to transfer to a four year school, studying what, he's not sure. He has no plans of leaving America until his dream of becoming a Professional American baseball player becomes a reality.

Sports Schedule

BASEBALL;				
Thurs.	Apr. 25	vs..	Mission	2:30
Sat.	Apr. 27	@.	Pierce	1:00
Tues.	Apr. 30	vs.	Bakersfield	2:30
Thurs.	May 2	vs.	College of the Canyons	2:30
SOFTBALL:				
Fri.	Apr. 26	vs.	Pierce	3:30
Mon.	Apr. 29	vs.	College of the Canyons	3:30
SWIMMING:				
Fri./Sat.	Apr. 26/27		WSC Championships @. Ventura	All Day
TRACK AND FIELD;				
Sat.	Apr. 27		Western State Finals @. Bakersfield	9:00

Track Team Sets New Precedent

By Leo Mayorga
Valley Star Staff Writer

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The Monarch men's track team scored their first win, in 15 years, at the WSC (Western States Conference) competition on Friday April 12, 1996. Sweeping three other colleges, they earned a total of 82 points in the fourth conference meet this season.

The distance runners, had almost a total sweep over their opponents, they scored 31 out of 33 possible points in their races on Friday. A total sweep was missed due to a third place finish in the 800.

"We are really rebuilding the team. The number of the track team members at Valley College has been low in the past. So, we will be re-emphasizing team competition with the teams in the fall. A lot more people are out for track," said Kevin Galbraith, the Monarch's track and field coach. If the number of runners on the team increases, the possibilities for more points and wins for Valley College will improve greatly.

The Monarchs are currently preparing for the conference finals which will be held on Saturday April 27. About 30, out of 40 Valley College team members, will be competing in the conference finals.

At the conference finals all 11 schools from the WSC will be competing head on. All the best athletes from their respective schools will be present at the meet.

"Several individual personal records have been broken. People have been running at their personal best throughout the season. The distance people improve as the season goes on," said Laneay London, Valley track team member.

The Monarch's success is due to a well rounded team. "Individual talent is well rounded. We've got just about one person in each event that performs well," said London.

Although the team ended in last place at the conference last year, chances look promising for the Monarchs this year. "We probably are going to have, as a team, a finish as good as Valley has ever had in several years in the conference," said Galbraith.

SUCCESSFUL SWIM SEASON

By John Tarr
Valley Staff Staff Writer

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The Valley College swim team won its final dual meet against Pierce on April 19. The women bested Pierce by a score of 91-47, bringing their overall record to 8-1. Head Swim Coach Bill Krauss said, "Our women swam very fast at Pierce and rose to the occasion!"

Andrea Loperena took first place in the 50 yard freestyle in 27.3 seconds and the 50 breaststroke in a state qualifying time of 33.0 seconds. Liz Troffer won the 100 free with 59.3 and 100 individual medley with one minute, 10.3 seconds. Jenifer Kaufman won the 50 backstroke in 30.3, state qualifying, and took second in the 100 back in 1:07.1.

The women also won the 200 medley and 200 free relays.

"The women have a good chance of winning the Western State Conference Meet in Ventura this weekend. Our men should swim very well," said Krauss.

The men's team handed Pierce a defeat with a score of 75-19, winning every event.

Aaron Robinson won the 1000 free in 10:19.1 and 200 individual in 2:11.1. Theo Smits-Van-Oyen won the 200 free with a time of 1:56.7 and 500 free with 5:17.9. Peter Angelou won the 50 free in 23.2 and 200 back in 2:28.1.

This weekend the swim team will be competing in the conference championships in Ventura, which the women won last year.

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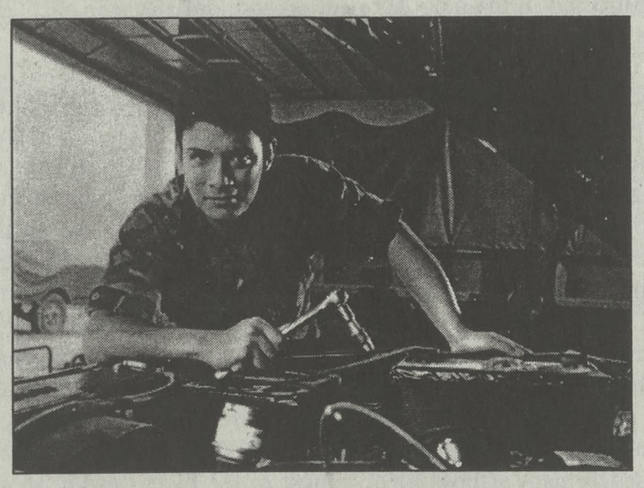
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